



# HF Happenings

Volume 14, Issue 39

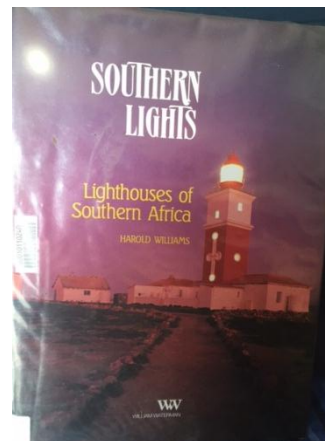
No 716

the week of 8 August 2016

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from [www.sarl.org.za/hf\\_happenings.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp).

## International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

The oldest and original International Amateur Radio Lighthouse Weekend event, the next event is 20 and 21 August 2016. You will find all the information at [www.illw.net](http://www.illw.net). The event is NOT a contest. There are no prizes, certificates or other enticements to participate and therefore, participation is free. Each station's operators decide how they will operate their station regards modes and bands. Participants are not committed to being on the air during the entire period - only as much as they can. There are no restrictions on aerals or power. We wish operators to enjoy themselves and have fun whilst making contact with as many amateur radio stations as possible. We request that stations take time to work other lighthouses or lightships as well as the slow operator, the newly licensed or QRP stations. <http://illw.net/index.php/entrants-list-2016.html>



From Southern Africa, the following lighthouses plan to be active -

South Head, Saldanha Bay, ZA0031, activated by ZS1DJR, QSL via the bureau

<http://lighthouses-of-sa.blogspot.co.za/2008/12/south-head-lighthouse.html> (first activation)

North Head, Saldanha Bay, ZA0029, activated by ZS1FC, QSL via the bureau

Robben Island, ZA0008 (and IOTA AF-064) activated by ZS9V, QSL via the bureau or LoTW

<http://zs9v.org.za>

Milnerton Lighthouse, ZA0019, activated by ZS1OAK, QSL via the bureau

<http://www.zs1oak.co.za/>

Green Point, Cape Town, ZA0006, activated by ZS1CT, QSL via LoTW or Bureau

[www.ctarc.org.za/](http://www.ctarc.org.za/)

Slangkop Point, ZA0015, activated by ZS1FRC, QSL via Box 37724, Vallyland, 7978

<http://www.fbamateurradio.wix.com/fbarc/>

Cape Hangklip, ZA0010, activated by ZS1C, QSL via the bureau

Danger Point, ZA0005, activated by ZS1OAR, QSL direct to ZS1EZ

Cape Agulhas, ZA0011, activated by ZS1BAK, QSL via the bureau [www.bark.org.za/](http://www.bark.org.za/)

Seal Point, ZA0021, activated by ZS2PE, QSL direct or e-QSL <http://www.zs2pe.co.za/>

Cape Recife, ZA0022, activated by ZS2EC, QSL direct, e-QSL or LoTW

Donkin Reserve/The Hill, ZA0023, activated by ZS2ZU, QSL via the bureau or direct

North Sands Bluff, ZA0016, activated by ZS5HAC, QSL via the SARL bureau

Cooper Lighthouse, ZA0004, activated by ZS5D, QSL via e-mail to ZS5D at

<http://www.durbanarc.org.za/>

In the publication "Southern Lights," you can read about the history of lighthouses in South Africa and the people involved with the lighthouses. I noted the use of radio beacons (NDB) at many of these lighthouses.



South African Radio League \* Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925



Port Nolloth, ZUX, 291,9 kHz; Groenrivier, ZR, 312 kHz; Robben Island, ZUI, 310,3 kHz; Cape Point, ZUH, 294,2 kHz; Danger Point, ZDP, 285,5 kHz; Cape Infanta, ZL, 314,5 kHz; Cape St Blaize, ZRF, 291,9 kHz; Cape St Francis, ZUM, 300 kHz; Cape Recife, ZTY, 308 kHz; M'Bashe, ZRE, 301,1 kHz; Hood Point, ZSY, 289,6 kHz; Ifafa, ZN, 310 kHz; Cooper, ZUT, 305,7 kHz; Richards Bay, ZK, 285,5 kHz; Cape St Lucia, ZQU, 313,5 kHz; Cape Vidal, ZP, 300 kHz and Jesser Point, ZQ, 304 kHz. Mention is made of the radio beacons at Dassen Island and Cape Agulhas, but no call signs or frequencies are given.

Somewhere in 2000, I think the radio beacons went silent with the installation of newer radio technology. However, not all - with some research I found that the following Lighthouses still have a radio beacon (just below the 2 200 m amateur allocation).

Cape Columbine Lighthouse, 0,310 kHz, DGPS Data

Dassen Island NDB, ZUL, 314,5 kHz AM CW

Robben Island NDB, ZUI, 310,1 kHz AM CW

Cape Point NDB, ZUH, 294,5 kHz AM CW

Cape Agulhas Lighthouse 0,301 kHz, DGPS Data

Cape Recife Lighthouse 0,291 kHz, DGPS Data

Cooper Lighthouse, 0,292 kHz, DGPS Data

Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) is an enhancement to Global Positioning System that provides improved location accuracy, from the 15-metre nominal GPS accuracy to about 10 cm in case of the best implementations.

## South African Radio League HF Digital Contest

The aim of the HF Phone Contest is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on one of the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands. The Phone Contest takes place from 13:00 to 16:30 UTC on Sunday 21 August 2016 with activity on 3 580 to 3 600 kHz, 7 040 to 7 060 kHz and 14 070 to 14 099 kHz.

You can participate as a Single Operator Single Band station, a Single Operator All Band station, a Multi Operator Single Band station or a Multi Operator All Band station. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete. The exchange is a RS report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. According to Rule 5.(c) of the General Rules states, "However, a multi-operator station transmitting on several bands simultaneously may at their discretion use separate number sequences for each band."

Phone contacts count 1 point. Count two points for each area (see below) on each band and count 2 points for each station contacted on all three bands.

Area 1: ZS1 Western Cape

Area 2: ZS2 Eastern Cape

Area 3: ZS3 Northern Cape

## August

4 to 6 - !Naba Food and Wine Festival Upington

6 - Thabazimbi Apiesdoring Carnival

7 - SARL HF Phone Contest

9 - National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint

12 to 14 - West Coast Craft Festival, Velddrif

14 - SARL Youth Net

20 and 21 - International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

21 - SARL HF Digital Contest

23 - Closing date for September Radio ZS articles

26 and 27 - Hantam Vleisfees, Calvinia

28 - SARL HF CW Contest

## September

3 - West Rand Flea Market

10 and 11 - SARL National Field Day

11 - SARL Youth Net

16 - World Ozone Day

17 and 18 - SARL VHF/UHF Contest; All Africa DX Contest

22 - Spring Equinox

24 - National Braai Day and Heritage Day

24 and 25 - CQ WW RTTY Contest

26 - Closing date for October Radio ZS

27 - World Tourism Day

30 - All schools close

Area 4: ZS4 Free State

Area 5: ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal

Area 6: ZS6 Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North West

Area 7: 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe, ZS8 Marion Island

Area 8: 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands, ZS7 Antarctica

Area 9: DX

Certificates are awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score in the contest. Silent Keys Memorial Trophy SSB - awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF Phone Contest and the Joseph White Trophy - awarded by the Contest Committee to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual South African Radio League HF Phone Contest.

Submit your log in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled "your call sign HF Phone," by 28 August 2016 by e-mail to [zs4bfn@mweb.co.za](mailto:zs4bfn@mweb.co.za)

## Belarus gets 60 m band

Amateurs in Belarus now have access to the new WRC15 60 m allocation. Their band is from 5 351,5 to 5 366,5 kHz, restricted to Class A (top level) licensees. CW, SSB or digital modes are permitted with maximum power of 50 watts.

## Ringling or buzzing in the ears

You have to be able to hear them to work them and tinnitus can interfere with that and life in general. New research points to some ways to treat the symptoms of this chronic condition affecting 50 million people in the US alone <http://nautil.us/blog/50-million-tinnitus-sufferers-just-got-some-bad-news-and-some-good-news>.

## Transistor density

According to the recently released Semiconductor Industry Association's International Technology Roadmap report, future innovation in transistor density will not be made by shrinking the size of transistors, but rather through changes in topology or geometry [www.semiconductors.org/news/2016/07/08/press\\_releases\\_2015/international\\_technology\\_roadmap\\_for\\_semiconductors\\_examines\\_next\\_15\\_years\\_of\\_chip\\_innovation/](http://www.semiconductors.org/news/2016/07/08/press_releases_2015/international_technology_roadmap_for_semiconductors_examines_next_15_years_of_chip_innovation/). The de-emphasis on size may occur as soon as 5 years from now. Ars Technica has placed the ITRS report in the context of other trends and industry history <http://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2016/07/itrs-roadmap-2021-moores-law/>.

## Word to the Wise

Diplexer - A device that is used to combine different frequencies or bands to a single output, or which can separate a common input into different bands or frequencies. They are common in UHF/VHF mobile applications where 2 metre and 440 MHz radios share a single coax cable to feed an antenna. In recent WRTC contests, triplexers have been used to allow two radios on two different bands to simultaneously use a tribander antenna.

## Soldering

Many of the steps like soldering, cutting, or painting, which might be necessary in home brewing a project for your station yield gases, smells or particulates. Here is an instructable showing a simple way to build a fume extractor and fume box for small projects [www.instructables.com/id/Easy-Cheap-Portable-VENTED-Fume-Extractor-and-Opti/](http://www.instructables.com/id/Easy-Cheap-Portable-VENTED-Fume-Extractor-and-Opti/).

## Faraday Cages

Faraday Cages work...how, exactly? One person's journey to understand them on a physics level yielded a number of surprises and questions the accuracy of conventional explanations. <https://sinews.siam.org/DetailsPage/TabId/900/ArtMID/2243/ArticleID/757/Surprises-of-the-Faraday-Cage.aspx>.

## RF design

As RF design goes nearly all digital, this EDN article provides a look at what it's like to design radios using digital building blocks [www.edn.com/design/analog/4442464/RF-design-in-the-21st-century](http://www.edn.com/design/analog/4442464/RF-design-in-the-21st-century). One of the biggest changes is that the design environment may provide a working prototype without the necessity of building any hardware.

## 3Y0Z Bouvet Island DXpedition 2018

3Y0Z Bouvet Island DXpedition 2018, IOTA AN - 002. The team: DJ9ZB, EY8MM, HK1R, K0IR, K4UEE, K9CT, LA6VM, N4GRN, N6HC, N9TK, NM1Y, PA5M, UA3AB, VA7DX, VE7CT, W0GJ, W6IZT, W8HC and WB9Z. QSL via N20O. Visit the official web site <http://www.bouvetdx.org/>



## African DX

Africa DX Net - every Saturday afternoon from 14:00 UTC on 14,260 MHz hosted by Mike, V51MA, Leon, A25SL, and Tinus, ZS6MHK.

Swaziland, 3DA0. Mike, SQ3PMM is active as 3DA0MS. Activity is during his spare time on 40 to 10 metres using CW and SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

Mozambique, C9. Johannes, PD0JBH, is now active as C91PA from Maputo until March 2017. Activity has been mostly on 40 and 20 metres using SSB. Send an e-mail to [pd0jbh@gmail.com](mailto:pd0jbh@gmail.com) for QSL details.

Kenya, 5Z4. Bruno, IW5BBV, will be active as 5Z4/IW5BBV from Watamu and Mida between 24 September and 10 October. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17 and 15 metres using a Yaesu FT-991. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau. Also via eQSL.

Ghana, 9G. Rado, S59ZZ, Peter, S54W, and Janko, S57L, will be active as 9G5AM from Langma, Kokrobite (near Accra, WW Loc. IJ95tl) between 19 and 26 October. Activity will be on 80 to 10 metres (possibly 160 m) using various modes. QSL via S59ZZ or ClubLog's OQRS.

Senegal, 6W. Al, F5VHJ, will once again be active this time with Jacques, F6BEE, signing as 6W1RY from Dakar during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (29 and 30 October) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL direct to F5VHJ, ClubLog's OQRS, LoTW or the REF QSL Bureau. USA QSL cards go via WA6WPG.

Central African Republic, TL. Ken, LA7GIA, will be active as TL8AO from Bangui between 10 and 22 November. Ken already has his license and has received his LoTW certificate. Activity will be on 80 to 15 metres (possibly 10 m as well, no 160 m) using mainly CW (SSB on 20 and 15 m). He states on his Web page the following - TL8AO is primarily a Single-Op DXpedition and the QSO target is 15 000 Qs - in 10 full days. The complete log will be uploaded to LoTW the same day he



returns from TL. The log will also be on ClubLog. OQRS to be activated and QSL Manager is Charles, M00XO. Look for more details/updates on his Web page at <http://www.la7gia.com>

## African Islands

### IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz



Robben Island, ZS. Barnie, ZS1BM, Bruce, ZS1FX, Paul, ZS1V, and Jan, ZS1VDV will be active as ZS9V from Robben Island (IOTA AF-064) between 19 and 21 August. Activity will be on various HF bands (160 to 10 m) and modes. Look for ZS9V to be active during the International Light-house Lightship Weekend (ILLW) - ZA0008.

There will be two stations on the air with 500 w amps using an Inverted "V" and TH3 antennas. QSL via M00XO or the OQRS on ClubLog. For more information and updates, see <http://zs9v.org.za>

Tanzania, 5H. Members of the Ukrainian DX Team (UDXT), Alex/UX0LL and Alex/UT5UY, will be active as 5H1XX from Zanzibar Island (AF-032) between 13 and 22 August. They plan to operate CW, SSB and the digital modes. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres with two stations and with an emphasis on the lower and 30, 17 and 12 m bands. This operation became possible due to great support of UX0HX and UZ1HZ HAM Radio Family, UW7LL, UR8LV, UR4LRG, UR3HR, UX1UF and UY5LW. QSL via M0URX. Full QSL instructions are available at [www.grz.com/db/5H1XX](http://www.grz.com/db/5H1XX)

Plane Island, 7X. Members of Amateur Radio Algeriens Association will be active as 7V9A from Plane Island AF-094 between 17 and 20 August. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via Ben Lagha, 18 Rue Louis, Aragon 26200, Montelimar, France.

Comoros, D6. Pavel/OK1FPS, David/OK6DJ, Pavel/OK1GK, Rudolf/OK2ZA and Petr/OK1BOA will be active as D66D from Comoros Islands (AF-007) between 18 and 30 September. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Equipment will be 3 x Elecraft K3 with 2 x PA into 2x Spiderbeams (includes WARC), 1 x vertical (40/30 m), 1 vertical (160/80 m) and a special RX antenna for the low bands. QSL via OK6DJ, LoTW or eQSL.

For more details and updates, see <http://www.cdxp.cz>. Watch their Facebook page [www.facebook.com/groups/1472348776313779](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1472348776313779)

## 5A1A/5A1AL QSL Change

Abubaker, 5A1AL, reports on QRZ.com, "Beginning 30 July 2016, the QSL process for 5A1AL and 5A1A (1995 - 2001) will be through my QSL Manager, Randy, W5UE. He will also upload the QSO(s) to LoTW after the OQRS request is made. There are still a few QSOs remaining on my paper logs. If your QSO(s) are missing in the online (OQRS) log, just send me a short e-mail with the QSO(s) details, and I will work with my QSL Manager to resolve the missing contact.

I would like to thank all of my amateur radio friends who have supported me and enabled me to keep 5A on the air under these unstable and unsafe conditions that we are experiencing. A special thanks to AB6Z, W5UE, W6GJB, N6TA, W6PK, K6MKF, K0YQ, N6RK, N6NU and K5AZZ for their support and encouragement. I apologize if I have left any one of my dear friends and supporters off this list. This list of supporters is not closed by any means! You can

be part of the support team that helps me keep 5A on the air. E-mail me for details..... 73, Abu-baker, 5A1AL

## Club Log's Most Wanted List

The latest Most Wanted List, generated on 31 July, is available at <https://secure.clublog.org/mostwanted.php>. The information is derived from QSOs uploaded to Club Log (currently 370 million log entries available for analysis) and, to improve quality, only QSOs that have QSLs confirmed are considered to be worked.

The most wanted entities based on data available to ClubLog:

- 1<sup>st</sup> P5 DPRK (North Korea)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 3Y/B Bouvet Island
- 3<sup>rd</sup> FT5/W Crozet Island
- 4<sup>th</sup> KH1 Baker Howland Islands
- 5<sup>th</sup> BS7H Scarborough Reef
- 6<sup>th</sup> BV9P Pratas Island
- 7<sup>th</sup> CE0X San Felix Islands
- 8<sup>th</sup> KH3 Johnston Island
- 9<sup>th</sup> VKOM Macquarie Island
- 10<sup>th</sup> KH7K Kure Island

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 8 to 15 August 2016

NAQCC CW Sprint  
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 10 August  
Mode: CW  
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m  
Classes: (none)  
Max power: 5 watts  
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power  
Work stations: Once per band  
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member  
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other  
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult  
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 August 2016  
Upload log at:  
<http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>  
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA  
Find rules at:  
<http://naqcc.info/sprint201608.html>

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 10 August  
Mode: SSB  
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m  
Classes: Single Op  
Max power: 100 watts  
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name  
Work stations: Once per band  
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station  
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band  
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 12 August 2016  
E-mail logs to: (none)  
Post log summary at:  
<http://www.3830scores.com>  
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.perluma.com/Phone\\_Fray\\_Contest\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf)

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 10

August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 11 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no

non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 13 August 2016

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, CW

19:00 - 20:00 UTC 10 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: 100 W; 10 W

Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 17 August 2016

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/rsprint.shtml>

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 12 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 13 August 2016

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.grpfoxhunt.org/summer\\_rules.htm](http://www.grpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm)

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 12 August

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 14 August 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 12 August

Mode: CW

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 14 August 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

WAE DX CW Contest

00:00 UTC 13 August to 23:59 UTC 14 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - high or low; Multi-Op; SWL

Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours, off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-Op: 48 hours

Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts

Exchange: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 29 August 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/logupload/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/rules/>

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

12:00 UTC 13 August to 24:00 UTC 14 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max operating hours: 24

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name, SKCC no or "NONE"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 21 August 2016

Post log summary at:

[http://www.skccgroup.com/operating\\_activities/weekend\\_sprintathon/submit-display.php](http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/submit-display.php)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://www.skccgroup.com/operating\\_activities/weekend\\_sprintathon/](http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/)

Maryland-DC QSO Party

16:00 UTC 13 August to 04:00 UTC 14 August and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 14 August

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2, 432

Classes: Standard; Mobile; Club; QRP

Exchange: MDC: entry class and county; non-MDC: entry class and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with club

station; 5 points per QSO with mobile station;

4 points per QSO with QRP station; 3

points per QSO with CW/digital station; 1

point per QSO for all other stations; Bonus:

50 points for at least one QSO with W3VPR

Multipliers: MDC: Each MD county, DC, Baltimore City, once only; MDC: Each state

(other than MD), VE province and country

once only; non-MDC: Each MD county, DC, Baltimore City, once only

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 13 September 2016

E-mail logs to: [MDQSOP@w3vpr.org](mailto:MDQSOP@w3vpr.org)

Mail logs to: MDC QSO Party, PO Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035, USA

Find rules at:

[http://mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org/Documents/Maryland\\_QSO\\_Party\\_Rules\\_2014.pdf](http://mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org/Documents/Maryland_QSO_Party_Rules_2014.pdf)

## Next Week's Contests

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 August

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 17 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 18 August

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 19 August

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 19 August

NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 19 August

SARTG WW RTTY Contest, 00:00 - 08:00 UTC and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 20 August and 08:00 - 16:00 UTC 21 August



Russian District Award Contest, 08:00 UTC 20 August to 08:00 UTC 21 August  
Himalayan Contest, 12:00 UTC 20 August to 12:00 UTC 21 August  
North American SSB QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 20 August to 05:59 UTC 21 August  
Feld Hell Sprint, 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 20 August  
CVA DX Contest, CW, 21:00 UTC 20 August to 21:00 UTC 21 August  
SARL HF Digital Contest, 13:00 - 16:30 UTC 21 August  
ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY, 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 21 August  
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 22 August

## VHF Happenings

### 70 MHz amateur radio band for Australia?

Australia's national amateur radio society, the WIA, has expressed an interest in getting an allocation at 70,0 to 70,5 MHz.

WIA News reports, "On 22 June this year, the Australian Communications and Media Authority opened consultation on proposed updates to frequency plans for the 70 to 87,5 MHz and 148 to 174 MHz VHF bands, with a closing date of 1 August 2016. You get little time to respond these days.

As the WIA had signified interest in a 70 MHz amateur allocation to the ACMA back in July 2014 and again in recent discussions with the ACMA, the Spectrum Strategy Committee decided that a submission to this consultation was in order, principally to flag the amateur radio community's interest.

Historically, the 70,0 to 87,5 MHz band has been used by commercial, community, government and defence communications services. The ACMA is proposing to update its Radiocommunications Assignment and Licensing Instruction document, which covers these VHF bands, known as R - A - L - I ~ RALI ~ MS 42.

The WIA is pitching for use of a band between 70 and 70,5 MHz that aligns with allocations across Region 1, which covers Europe, Russia, the Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa. These Region 1 allocations are widely known as the four metre band.

The WIA has been aware for some time that interest in, and use of 70 to 70,5 MHz across Australia has declined. It remains to be seen whether the ACMA's consultation round on RALI MS 42 will flush out renewed interest from other stakeholders.

Whatever changes the ACMA decides to make to the RALI, there is another step to go, with consultation on updating the Australian Radio Frequency Spectrum Plan to commence shortly. The WIA will be pitching for a 70 MHz allocation, along with a suite of other frequencies, including the 60 metre band that the World Radiocommunications Conference agreed on last year.

### FreeSRP

FreeSRP <http://electronics.kitchen/freesrp> is an SDR that covers 70 MHz to 6 GHz and is open source and open hardware. What's more impressive it was designed and built from scratch by a motivated 18-year-old. He discusses how he did it <https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=12181350>

MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteor Scatter Sprint Contest

22:00 UTC 11 August to 22:00 UTC 13 August  
Mode: Any

Bands: 2 m Only  
Classes: Category 1 QRP; Category 2 QRO  
Max power: (see rules)  
Exchange: Signal report  
QSO Points: 1 point per km  
Multipliers: (none)  
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points  
Submit logs by: 15 September 2016  
E-mail logs to: [mssprint@mmmonvhf.de](mailto:mssprint@mmmonvhf.de)  
Mail logs to: A.F. Veldhuijsen, PA4EME,  
Westlandstraat 9, 6137 KE Sittard, The Netherlands  
Find rules at:  
<http://www.mmmonvhf.de/ctestinfo.php>

50 MHz Fall Sprint  
23:00 UTC 13 August to 03:00 UTC 14 August

Mode: not specified  
Bands: 6 m Only  
Classes: Single Op Rover  
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 200 watts;  
QRP: 5 watts  
Exchange: 4-character grid square  
QSO Points: 1 points per QSO  
Multipliers: Each grid square  
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
Submit logs by: 27 August 2016  
E-mail logs to: (none)  
Post log summary at:  
<http://www.3830scores.com/>  
Mail logs to: (none)  
Find rules at:  
[http://svhfs.org/2016\\_Fall\\_Sprint\\_Rules.pdf](http://svhfs.org/2016_Fall_Sprint_Rules.pdf)

ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest, 06:00 local 20 August to 24:00 local 21 August

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter